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People, Projects and Priorities at Environment and Conservation

Volume 2, No.11 August 2005

In Vision

Environment and Conservation employees:

I have spent much of the last few weeks traveling across east Tennessee. Paul Sloan, Mike Carlton and I joined DOE-Oversight director John Owsley earlier this month for an extensive tour of the Oak Ridge National Laboratory. I appreciated getting a first-hand look at the wide range of science and research underway in Oak Ridge. We were able to see a number of exciting energy and environmental innovations that will make Oak Ridge a technology transfer and economic leader for the entire Southeast.

Most recently, I was in the Tri-Cities area to visit our Johnson City



Commissioner Jim Fyke

Environmental Field Office and meet with representatives from Friends of Warriors' Path State Park. My schedule also allowed me to participate in State Parks night at the ballpark for the Johnson City Cardinals baseball game.

I am pleased to report that the department's State Parks and Used Oil program partnership with Tennessee minor league baseball continues to be a big hit as we host multiple events at nine different stadiums throughout the summer. Our Used Oil program has even been invited to present the results of this partnership with minor league baseball at the North American Hazardous Materials Management Association annual meeting in September.

From offering children a hands-on natural experience to giving adults complimentary used oil collection containers, these ballpark events do a great job touching thousands of people with an emphasis on environmental protection and conservation stewardship.

I also met with the department's Communications Committee last week. It gave me the chance to thank the committee members for their work on activities like this newsletter and share my support for communications across the department. Fostering open communication channels for employees is a top priority for Paul Sloan, Mike Carlton, Andy Lyon and myself. We all prefer a wide-open approach for the department's internal and external communications, and we know better communication has a positive impact on productivity and employee morale.

I believe communication in our department, top-down and bottom-up, has really improved. I am excited about what has been accomplished in a short time and look forward to even more positive developments in areas like our Web site and the intranet. I continue to feel that the best is yet to come for our department.

Changes to Times and Trails Editorial Advisory Board

Below is a list of department contacts and designated *Times and Trails* editorial advisors. If you have story ideas, articles or photos to share, please pass them along to your department contact who will then pass them on to *Times and Trails* editorial advisors. There have been some changes to the editorial advisory board, so be sure to save this updated list for future reference.

If you have a great story idea but don't feel comfortable writing an article, let us know. *Times and Trails* will be glad to write an article from the information you provide. The editorial advisory board would like to thank everyone who has written articles, submitted ideas and sent photos. E-mail us at: tdec.newsletter@state.tn.us.

Division	Division Contact	Times and Trails Contact
Air Pollution Control	Lida Galbreath	Billy Pugh
Archaeology	Mike Moore	Bud Yard
Chattanooga Field Office	Andra Kelley	Jan Compton
Columbia Field Office	Joe Holmes / Sheila Woodard	Jan Compton
Cookeville Field Office	Jan Tollett	Jan Compton
DOE-Oversight	Bud Yard	Bud Yard
Fiscal Services	Brenda Vaughan	Brenda Vaughan
Geology	Ron Zurawski	Bud Yard
Ground Water Protection	Tonja Patton	Jennifer Watson
Historical Commission	Cheryl Gracy	Cheryl Gracy
Human Resources	Beverly Austin	Brenda Vaughan
Information Systems	Michael Whalen	Brenda Vaughan
Internal Audit	David Hood	Brenda Vaughan
Jackson Field Office	Phyllis McKinney	Jan Compton
Johnson City Field Office	Jan Compton	Jan Compton
Knoxville Field Office	Mark Penland	Jan Compton
Memphis Field Office	Philip Davis	Jan Compton
Nashville Field Office	Charles Jobe	Jan Compton
Natural Heritage	Cheryl Gracy	Cheryl Gracy
Office of General Counsel	Danielle Bowen	Brenda Vaughan
Radiological Health	Connie Pinkerton	Billy Pugh
Recreation Education	Cheryl Gracy	Cheryl Gracy
Solid Waste Management	Glen Birdwell / Theresa Boyer	Bud Yard
State Parks and Conservation	Cheryl Gracy	Cheryl Gracy
Superfund	David Randolph	Bud Yard
Underground Storage Tanks	Lamar Bradley	Bud Yard
Water Pollution Control	Jennifer Watson	Jennifer Watson
Water Supply	Lee Keck	Jennifer Watson
West Tenn. River Basin Authority	David Salyers	Jennifer Watson
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September 5, 2005

Statewide Storm Water Management Meetings Begin

The Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT), in partnership with the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC), is currently developing the Statewide Storm Water Management Plan (SSWMP) in order to better protect water quality in Tennessee. Development of the SSWMP grew out of the Consent Order entered into between TDOT and TDEC in 2004 to ensure that storm water management is incorporated throughout TDOT's construction operations, and that storm water and water quality are considerations in all phases of every TDOT project.



"The plan will outline the steps TDOT will take to prevent erosion, control sediment, and manage storm water across Tennessee," said Ed Cole, TDOT Chief of Environment and Planning. "The goal is to plan, design, construct and maintain the state's highways to minimize the impact of storm water runoff."

"The development of this plan is extremely important to ensure we're doing everything we can across state government to protect water quality, and it stands in testament to the unprecedented commitment to working in partnership that has been made by TDOT and TDEC to achieve that goal," said TDEC Deputy Commissioner Paul Sloan. "Equally important is the public participation aspect of the process, and I encourage all those interested and concerned about water quality to attend the meetings if possible, learn about the proposed plan and provide us with their input."

TDOT and TDEC will host a series of public meetings, one in each of the grand divisions of the state, to present information about the SSWMP. During the SSWMP meetings, the public will be provided an overview of what is being considered for inclusion in the plan. The public will be invited to give their input on what they would like to see addressed by the plan.

Following the August public meetings, public input will be evaluated and considered for incorporation into a draft SSWMP. In November 2005, the draft SSWMP will be made available for public review and comment. The document will be accessible both on the TDOT website, as well as specific locations across the state which will be identified and publicized through a variety of media outlets.

In January 2006, a second round of meetings will be scheduled in each of the grand divisions of the state to solicit public comment about the draft document. The Statewide Storm Water Management Plan will then be finalized in March 2006.

Got Quadrangles? Tennessee is a Top Five State in Geological Mapping



Peter Lemiszki, geologist at the Knoxville Environmental Field Office presents a power point to the Tennessee Mapping Advisory Committee. For more information visit www.tdec.net/tdg.

The Division of Geology's mapping section performs basic geologic mapping, mineral resources identification and evaluation of geologic hazards such as caves, landslides, and sinkholes.

The division plays a key role in determining and communicating incredibly detailed topographical features of our land. The basic building blocks for this intense mapping are quadrangles. Quadrangles cover about 60 square miles in real life and their details are captured at a scale of 1 inch to equal 2,000 feet for mapping purposes. There are 804 quadrangles covering Tennessee. Since 1960, the division has mapped and published 487 of these quadrangles. This places Tennessee among the top five states in the nation when it comes to percentage of quadrangles that are completely mapped for the state.

The Tennessee Mapping Advisory Committee prioritizes the quadrangles for mapping. Some of the uses for the the published maps are to evaluate groundwater flow and the potential for migration of contaminants that may have been released to the soil and groundwater, to prepare proposals for new roadways and as an information tool for state regulatory agencies in their regulatory functions, spill, and complaint investigations.

In-Step with Environment and Conservation Staff

Joey Holland, manager of Water Pollution Control in the Nashville Environmental Field Office has a real passion for on road bicycle racing.

There are three types of on road bicycle racing: road races, time trials and criteriums. In-Step asked Joey to explain his favorite, the spectator-friendly criterium.

The criterium is a mass-start race consisting of many laps on a course about a half-mile in length. These courses are usually in downtown areas where the roads are closed to traffic and curbside hazards such as fire hydrants and signposts are padded with hay bales. The total distance of each race depends on the racer category and is measured in time plus laps rather than distance. For example, higher category racers might race for 60 minutes plus five laps. It doesn't matter how far the racers travel in the first 60 minutes, but after that time they know there are only five laps left. In this type of race, lagging riders are pulled from the race before they are lapped.

In order to feel comfortable racing, a cyclist must be somewhat at ease while riding very close to others in large groups. Most touring cyclists haven't developed this comfort level. To gain experience at riding in close quarters, try to participate in training rides organized by a local bicycle racing club. There are currently 22 clubs registered with the Tennessee Bicycle Racing Association across the state. You can obtain contact information for these clubs and plenty more information on Tennessee bicycle racing at www.tbra.org.

What is your position at TDEC?

WPC Field Office Manager at the Nashville Environmental Field Office.

What does that involve?

The work starts with writing job plans for each WPC staff to ensure that all commitments of the WPC program are addressed. Then I have to provide the continuous monitoring and feedback to staff to make sure that job plan goals are met. When you write good job plans and help staff to meet job plans goals, the work usually gets done.

How long have you worked at the department?

I started with TDEC in January 1973, that's over 32 years ago.

What is your favorite dessert?

My wife's carrot cake is awfully special.

What is one thing your fellow employees probably don't know about you? I actually do occasionally take time to relax. I think most folks consider me to be very hyper, but I regularly sit down with my wife, family or friends to play cards or a board game.

What do you enjoy most about working for the department?

I enjoy having the variety that's offered by my job. After several difficult days in the office, I can usually schedule work that has me wading into some scenic Middle Tennessee stream to collect water samples.

If you could change one thing about TDEC, what would that be?

I suppose this applies to State government in general, but I think that we need a compensation program that would allow managers to offer merit salary increases to employees who demonstrate excellent performance.



Joey Holland, competes in a criterium race in Cookeville. Joey has been an avid biker for over 30 years. Photo courtesy of Bill Parsons.

Nashville Environmental Field Office Offers Rides

Only a small fraction of all bicyclist are interested in racing. So, folks at the Nashville Environmental Field Office have developed a ride schedule for the recreational cyclist.

Dating back to 1995, department cyclists have enjoyed a ride on the hilly roads of northwest Davidson County every Thursday at 5:00 PM. The Thursday ride offers both intense and leisurely-paced options to accommodate a wide range of riding abilities.

With the Nashville EFO's move to Inglewood, another Thursday ride option at the Shelby Bottoms Greenway is now available. This option is more beginner-friendly, away from auto traffic and steep hills.

For information contact Joey Holland, Brenda Apple, or Ann Epperson in the Nashville Environmental Field Office.

Join the State Parks Running Tour as Part of Team TDEC



Running through the parks is a great perk of living in Tennessee, especially in the fall. The 27th year of the State Parks Running Tour begins on October 30th with Long Hunter's "Halloween Hunt" and will cover 15 parks throughout the state over four months. This year's Running Tour will also feature our own Deputy Commissioner Paul Sloan, who is committing the entire Sloan family to participate in many of these races. While we are pleased to have Paul's support

for the Tour, we are even more excited to have his wife, Margaret Gross Sloan, involved with the races. Margaret was a world-class runner who had previously participated in the 1988 Olympic Games in Seoul, South Korea. While she is not active in elite racing competition anymore, Margaret still holds the American Olympic Trials record for the marathon and is an inspiration to runners across the region. We are fortunate to have her lend support to these events.

The Running Tour is one of the most enjoyable and successful programs offered through our State Parks system, and it would be great to have Environment and Conservation employees representing the department at these races. We invite all interested employees to run this Tour as a team! Whether your goal is to participate in one race or to take on the full Grand Prix challenge, you'll have more fun at the event if you've got teammates to share the experience with. There are no major commitments, and our main objectives will be to enjoy the races, our parks and the fellowship outside of work. You are encouraged to participate at the level you choose. Even if running doesn't appeal to you, consider coming out to the Running Tour just to cheer, watch or volunteer. The support is always appreciated, and you will get the opportunity to enjoy one of our outstanding Tennessee State Parks.

For more information on Team TDEC or to express interest in joining, e-mail Emeline Johnston in the Office of Environmental Assistance: emeline.johnston@state.tn.us. For more information on the State Parks Running Tour, visit www.tdec.net/parks/RunningTour/.

New Chapter of SORBA Forms in Middle Tennessee

A new chapter of the Southern Off-Road Bicycle Association is forming in Nashville. Comprised of the former Lock4 Trailblazers, the new club will be named SORBA Mid Tenn. Trail projects include Montgomery Bell State Park and Long Hunter State Park as well as partnership building at Fall Creek Falls State Park and Big South Fork National Recreation Area.

Source: SORBA



Did you know....

- 54% of Americans would like to walk more
- 53% would like to bike more
- In the 1960s, nearly 70% of children walked or bicycled to school. Today, less than 10% go to school under their own power
- 28% of trips in the US are under one mile
- 48% are less than three miles
- 1.7% of trips are made by foot or bicycle
- Motor vehicle emissions represent 31% of carbon dioxide, 81% of carbon monoxide, and 49% of nitrogen oxide
- 60% of pollution created by automobiles occurs in the first few minutes of operation
- A four-mile trip by bicycle keeps about 15 pounds of pollutants out of the air
- Tennessee spends 0.7% of its federal transportation funds on pedestrian/bicycle facilities

Source: Bike/Ped Fact Sheet. Walk/Bike Nashville

Welcome New Employees

The Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation has named Bonnie Gamble as Assistant Director in the Recreation Educational Services Division.

Gamble will be responsible for overseeing the Recreation and Planning Resources Section and the Land Management and Funding Resources Section within the Division. Within these sections



Bonnie Gamble

the Division. Within these sections are the Parks and Recreation Technical Assistant Service (PARTAS) program, which provides research, development, technical assistance, and opportunities in enhancing the recreation system in Tennessee; Greenways and Trails Services and Planning Resources, which includes the development of the Tennessee State Recreation Plan and the Greenways and Trails Plan. Gamble will also facilitate and manage the State Land Acquisition Program and the Lands Disposal Program.

Gamble will direct three major grant programs for the department: the Local Park and Recreation Fund (LPRF), which accumulates approximately \$3 million annually; the Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF), which provides approximately \$1.5 million annually for state and local governments; and the federal Recreation Trails Program (RTP), which supplies \$1 million annually for state and local trail projects. She will also oversee grants such as the Tennessee Recreation Initiative Program, Natural Resource Trust Fund and the Ducks Unlimited License Plate Grant Program.

Gamble joins the Department of Environment and Conservation from her most recent position as City of Manchester Parks and Recreation Director. Gamble holds a Bachelor of Arts from Purdue University and a Master of Arts from Middle Tennessee State University. Gamble is a Certified Parks and Recreation Professional (CPRP) with more than a decade of experience.

Times and Trails hits the Internet

Special editions and monthly editions of *Times and Trails* are now available on the Internet. To view the latest or archived issues, please go to the main page, select news, select newsletters. Here is a direct link: www.state.tn.us/environment/news/communications.php?newsletters

August Service Anniversaries

5 Years

Joshua Kirby, Radnor Lake State Park
April Welch, Long Hunter State Park
Mark Price, Paris Landing State Park
Roberta Brown, Roan Mountain State Park
Brian Dyer, Roan Mountain State Park
Shawn Cummins, Facilities Management, Knoxville EFO
James Robinson, Air Pollution Control
Herb Nicholson, Solid Waste Management, Memphis EFO
John McCall, DOE Oversight, Knoxville EFO
Erich Webber, Water Supply, Nashville EFO

10 Years

Kelli Christian, David Crockett State Park **Bobby Mayhall,** Pickwick Landing State Park **John Hoffelt,** Remediation, Nashville EFO

15 Years

Charlette Watson, Radiological Health Sandra Carr, South Cumberland State Park

20 Years

Kerry Blanton, Henry Horton State Park
Lori Jett, State Parks Ranger Program
Sheila Woodard, BOE Administration, Columbia EFO
Ruben Crosslin, Radiological Health
Dennis Lampley, Solid Waste Management, Columbia EFO
James White, Ground Water Protection
Sandra Breeden, Underground Storage
Kenneth Nafe, Solid Waste Management

25 Years

Marilyn Catlin, Fiscal Services
John Molder, Meeman Shelby State Park
Teresa Highland, Pickwick Landing State Park
Edgar Holland, Facilities Management, Jackson EFO
Luke Ewing, Water Supply, Nashville EFO

30 Years

Andrew Lyon, Assistant Commissioner, State Parks

35 Years

Johnny Graves, Radiological Health



People, Projects and Priorities

Out and About with the Commissioners

Commissioner's Office Visits Oak Ridge; Sees Cutting Edge Technology First Hand at ORNL



Billy Stair (folder in hand), Director of Communications and External Relations at Oak Ridge National Laboratory, shows Deputy Commissioner Sloan, DOE General Manager Gerald Boyd, TDEC DOE-Oversight director John Owsley, Commissioner Fyke, State Parks' Philisa Bennett and Assistant Commissioner Mike Carlton various sites on the model of ORNL's campus. Particular interest was given to the \$1.4 billion Spallation Neutron Source project. Scheduled to be completed in 2006, it is the world's largest civilian science project.



Deputy Commissioner Paul Sloan (left) laughs while Commissioner Fyke confesses to Oak Ridge National Laboratory staff that he doesn't remember much from his college integral calculus class. State Parks' Philisa Bennett and Assistant Commissioner Mike Carlton are looking on.

Have a Say in the Future of Your Tennessee State Parks!

Are you a hiker, camper, cyclist, paddler, RVer or outdoor enthusiast? Or do you just love your local Tennessee State Park? We are starting to plan for the next 10 years of state parks management, and this is your chance to tell us what you think.

Meeting participants will hear a brief presentation about state parks and then be able to share ideas and ask questions of park staff.

Can't make the Town Hall Meeting? We would still like to hear from you. Please take a look at the Tennessee State Parks Strategic Direction document at www.tdec.net/parks/StrategicDirect.pdf and e-mail your comments to: ask.tnstate.parks@state.tn.us

Your voice matters to us as we plan for the next 10 years. We hope to see you at a Town Hall Meeting in your area!

For more information about the meetings, contact: Nancy Dorman, State Parks Planning Manager, at 615-532-0039 or nancy.dorman@state.tn.us.

Memphis - Tuesday, August 30, 2005 -- 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. - Rhodes College, 2000 North Parkway, Buckman Hall, Blount Auditorium

Martin - Monday, September 12, 2005 -- 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. - University of Tennessee at Martin, Boling University Center, Wayne Fisher Drive

Jackson - Tuesday, September 13, 2005 -- 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. - TDOT, Region 4 Office Building, 300 Benchmark Place

Columbia - Thursday, September 15, 2005 -- 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. - Columbia Field Office, 2484 Park Plus Drive

Knoxville Area - Monday, September 19, 2005 -- 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. - Norris Dam State Park, Tea Room, 125 Village Green Circle, Lake City

Cookeville - Tuesday, September 20, 2005 -- 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. - Cookeville Community Center, 240 Carlen Drive

Chattanooga Area - Thursday, September 22, 2005 -- 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. - Harrison Bay State Park, Rec Lodge, 8411 Harrison Bay Road, Harrison

Kingsport - Monday, September 26, 2005 -- 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. - Warriors Path State Park, Recreation Building, 490 Hemlock Road

Nashville - Thursday, September 29, 2005 -- 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. - Adventure Science Center, Jack Wood Hall, 800 Fort Negley Blvd.

Times and Trails

People, Projects and Priorities

Third Party Appeal for Water Permits Signed into Law



Governor Phil Bredesen is joined at the Third Party Appeal bill signing by Deputy Commissioner Paul Sloan, House Environment Committee Chairman Gary Odom and a host of supporters from the environmental and business community.

Deputy Commissioner Paul Sloan with House Environmental Committee Chairman Gary Odom.

Deputy Commissioner Paul Sloan joined Governor Bredesen and House Environment Committee Chairman Gary Odom at the recent bill signing for expanding 3rd Party Appeal rights in Tennessee. The department worked successfully with legislators, the business community and environmental advocates to create meaningful change for the Third Party Appeal process for water related permits in Tennessee. It previously only gave permit applicants the right to appeal permit decisions of the department. Third parties, such as environmental groups or downstream neighbors, had limited options to challenge the permit action. This bill did away with the differential treatment and provided both the applicant and other



persons who are aggrieved by a permit decision may appeal the permit decisions of the department. The new law benefits Tennessee citizens through strengthened natural resource protection programs and increased access in the public participation process.

Deputy Commissioner Sloan Meets with CENTS Advisory Council



Deputy Commissioner Paul Sloan recently met with members of the Conservation Education Now for Tennessee Students (CENTS) Advisory Council at the Tennessee Wildlife Federation office to receive an update on the program and share his vision for the next steps with CENTS. (l-r) Deputy Commiss oner Sloan, Michelle Rogers, Project WETT, Padgett Kelley, MTSU Center for Environmental Education, Tami Coleman, Project CENTS coordinator, Deborah Boyd, Department of Education, Cynthia Rohrbach, TP3 Green Schools, Cindi Smith Walters, MTSU Center for Environmental Education, Karen Grubbs, Office of Environmental Assistance, Mary McDonald, TWF, Karen Hargrove, MTSU's WaterWorks program, Margo Farnsworth, Cumberland River Compact.

Times and Trails

People, Projects and Priorities

Warriors' Path State Park – Designated a Clean Marina by TVA

Warriors' Path State Park Marina, located on Fort Patrick Henry Reservoir on the Holston River, now flies a Clean Marina flag as a result of the marina's actions to clean up the waterway.

TVA presented a certificate and flag to Tennessee State Parks Assistant Commissioner Mike Carlton in a public ceremony last weekend.

"We are proud of the efforts made at Warriors' Path and other Tennessee State Parks to achieve TVA's Clean Marina designation," said Environment and Conservation Commissioner Jim Fyke. "These efforts will go a long way to help preserve and protect the quality of our water for the people of Tennessee to enjoy."

To receive Clean Marina designation, a marina must meet all federal, state and local regulations related to marina management. The marina also must implement a number of recommended practices to minimize pollution and encourage boaters to become effective stewards of the water resources.

Warriors' Path State Park Manager Bobby Harbin voluntarily sought innovative measures to handle boat sewage. The marina is designated as a no-discharge marina, which prohibits the release of treated and untreated sewage within the harbor limits.

Other pollution prevention efforts include safe fuel-management techniques – including having a current spill prevention, control and countermeasures plan – and providing information and learn-

ing opportunities for boaters.

Warriors' Path State Park, one of the most visited state parks in Tennessee, is home to the first state park marina in east Tennessee to receive this designation. Paris Landing and Pickwick Landing State Park Marinas in west



Tennessee also fly the Clean Marina flag. For additional information on TVA's Clean Marina initiative, visit:

www.tva.com/environment/water/boating.htm.

Warriors' Path State Park sits on 950 acres and was named for the park's proximity to the ancient war and trading path used by the Cherokee. In addition to boating on Patrick Henry Reservoir, the park features camping, hiking, fishing, golf, biking, swimming, picnic facilities and horseback riding.

For information about boating, camping fees or other recreational opportunities at Warriors' Path call the park at (423) 239-8531 or visit www.tnstateparks.com/parks/WarriorsPath/.



Upper Greeter Falls in USA Today

South Cumberland State Park's Greeter Falls was listed in a travel feature in *USA Today*! Read about "10 great places to take an old-timey plunge," including Greeter Falls, at:

 $www.us at oday.com/travel/destinations/2005-\\07-21-10-great-swimming_x.htm$

Photo: Copyright 2005 Ron Castle. Ron is the former president of Friends of South Cumberland State Park, home to the nationally recognized Upper Greeter Falls.

Times and Trails

People, Projects and Priorities

Can you identify these Bureau of Environment directors?

Ongoing facility improvements at the Nashville Central Office are causing many individuals to empty drawers containing lots of fond memories. These photos from a few years ago are just some of the the interesting materials being discovered.













David Draughon, Senior Director for Water Resources.

David Draughon, Senior Director for Water Resources.

Feeling left out?

If you have trouble opening the *Times and Trails* Newsletter, or know someone who has trouble, please let us know. We will be glad to add you to our mailing list. You will receive every monthly edition of *Times and Trails*, as well as any Special Edition issues. Email us at: tdectimes@state.tn.us

Answers: Paul Davis, Director of Water Pollution Control, Quincy Styke, Deputy Director of Air Pollution Control, Jim Haynes, Director,

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